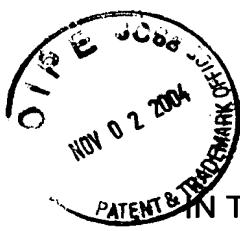


PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

ALAIN Y. LEVEQUE ET. AL.

CASE NO.: AD6571USCNT1

SERIAL NO.: 10/660236

GROUP ART UNIT: 1723

FILED: SEPTEMBER 11, 2003

EXAMINER: CHARLES E. COOLEY

FOR: SCREW

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the office action mailed May 28, 2004, Applicants hereby reply and request that the following AMENDMENTS be entered of record and that REMARKS be considered.

AMENDMENTS to the Specification have been provided in the form of a marked-up Substitute Specification, without claims, that accompanies this Response. Please replace the specification with the Substitute Specification. No new matter has been added.

AMENDMENTS to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims that begins on page 2 of this response.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 4 of this response.